

[REDACTED]  
Cy 5 of 7

19 February 1969

Dear Don:

We have reviewed the KH-4 coverage of the USDA and AID areas of interest, and find that there are at least sample coverages of the areas. The KH-4 has six foot ground resolution at the nadir.

[REDACTED]

As you know, we used the black and white coverage of [REDACTED] as the basis for estimation of yield. In the absence of disease and catastrophe, the estimation determined compared favorably with that utilizing multi-spectral coverage of small scale. The black and white analysis method leans very heavily on collateral information. Thus where there is little collateral information available, mainland China for instance, it may be assumed that production estimates will have a high error coefficient. It is logical to assume, however, that better production estimates can be made with the additional input provided by the KH-4 photography. In areas such as South America where I assume we can even get ground truth, the production estimates may be good enough for their intended purpose.

To determine this, I propose to perform KH-4 analysis of four regions:

- a. Argentina-Chile
- b. [REDACTED]
- c. Thailand
- d. USSR (Crimea)

In addition, high altitude coverage of regions a, b, and c will be obtained to simulate KH-4 and multi-spectral photography.

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There are details to be worked out, of course, but I wanted your concurrence on this course of action before proceeding further.

Sincerely,

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[Redacted]  
Office of Research and Development  
DD S&T

CONCUR:

ILLEGIB

[Redacted]  
Deputy Director for Science and Technology

Dr. Donald H. Steininger  
Executive Office of the President  
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O/ORD/DD/S&T: [Redacted] (19 Feb 69)

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